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Media contacts:

Alanna Sobel, National Park Foundation, asobel@nationalparks.org, (202) 354-6486
Scott Hill, George Washington Birthplace NM, scott_hill@nps.gov, (804) 224-1732

**GEORGE WASHINGTON BIRTHPLACE NATIONAL MONUMENT RECEIVES 2013 ACTIVE TRAILS GRANT
FROM THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION**

(Colonial Beach, VA) May 10, 2013 – George Washington Birthplace National Monument is one of 22 national parks across the country selected to receive a 2013 [Active Trails](#) grant from the [National Park Foundation](#), the official charity of America's national parks. Now in its fifth year, the Active Trails program supports hands-on projects that encourage the public to lead healthy lives by actively engaging in trail work, special events and community activities that help restore, protect and/or create land and water trails across the country.

"Through the Active Trails program, we are able to help national parks across the country in their efforts to maintain and enhance the 17,000 miles of land and water trails that we currently have," said Neil Mulholland, President and CEO of the National Park Foundation. "These grants also help national parks create new trails and encourage healthy lifestyles by offering opportunities for the public to be active in their national parks."

The Active Trails Grant will be used to connect existing trails to the Potomac Beach as well as to provide kayak/canoe destination points in Popes Creek to create a complementary network of water and foot trails that George Washington could have known. The park will partner with the local YMCA summer camp to provide an outdoor recreation venue that will give participating children new experiences at the park, engage the surrounding communities with these new recreational opportunities and demonstrate ways to have fun, exercise and engage in our history.

"We are so excited to have been selected to receive an Active Trails Grant this year," stated Acting Superintendent John Storke. "Promoting the park with the King George YMCA is a fantastic opportunity to get the word out that we have these new health and fitness opportunities as well as get kids outside who would normally spend most of their summer indoors. This is a win-win for all."

Since 2008, the National Park Foundation has granted nearly \$1.7 million through its Active Trails program. To date, Active Trails has engaged more than 4,700 volunteers and 131 project partners who combined have contributed more than 21,000 hours to help promote, refurbish or build national park trails that were ultimately enjoyed by 304,000 visitors (and counting!).

"National park trails are simply invaluable. They provide venues for outdoor recreation, promote enjoyment of outdoor areas, support local economies, and so much more," said National Park Service

Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. “Thanks to these grants, we will be able to encourage even greater visitor involvement in our trails with new projects, events and volunteer opportunities.”

The 2013 Active Trails Grantees include:

[Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area](#), Montana
[Blue Ridge Parkway](#), North Carolina
[Buffalo National River](#), Arkansas
[Chickasaw National Recreation Area](#), Oklahoma
[Cuyahoga Valley National Park](#), Ohio
[Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area](#), Pennsylvania
[George Washington Birthplace National Monument](#), Virginia
[Glen Canyon National Recreation Area](#), Arizona
[Grand Teton National Park](#), Wyoming
[Gulf Islands National Seashore](#), Mississippi and Florida
[Joshua Tree National Park](#), California
[Mammoth Cave National Park](#), Kentucky
[Trail of Tears National Historic Trail](#), Tennessee
[North Country National Scenic Trail](#), Minnesota
[Ocmulgee National Monument](#), Georgia
[Point Reyes National Seashore](#), California
[River Raisin National Battlefield Park](#), Michigan
[Russell Cave National Monument](#), Alabama
[Saguaro National Park](#), Arizona
[Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument](#), Arizona
[Timpanogos Cave National Monument](#), Utah
[Voyageurs National Park](#), Minnesota

A listing of these parks and their Active Trails project descriptions can be found on the [National Park Foundation website](#).

The National Park Foundation wishes to thank [Coca-Cola](#) and the [Coca-Cola Foundation](#) for their generous support of the Active Trails program.

For more information on the [National Park Foundation](#) or how you can support and protect America’s national parks, please visit www.nationalparks.org.

ABOUT George Washington Birthplace National Monument

In the heart of the Northern Neck of Virginia stands a tribute to America’s founding father, George Washington. Although only here a short time, the ideas that Washington learned here, helped shape the man he would become and forever alter the destiny of the United States of America.

www.nps.gov/gewa

ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION

The National Park Foundation, the official charity of America’s national parks, raises private funds that directly aid, support and enrich America’s more than 400 national parks and their programs. Chartered

by Congress as the nonprofit partner of the National Park Service, the National Park Foundation plays a critical role in conservation and preservation efforts, establishing national parks as powerful learning environments, and giving all audiences an equal and abundant opportunity to experience, enjoy and support America's treasured places. www.nationalparks.org.

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